

Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (SMBNEP)  
Governance Review  
eSurvey

Background

Under US EPA National Estuary Program Guidance, the structure of governance for the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (SMBNEP), the “Management Conference,” is required to be periodically reviewed. In June and December 2018, ~~staff of SMBNEP staff from the Bay Foundation and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission and US EPA~~ presented background on the structure of the SMBNEP and its component elements. ~~This included the staff of US EPA, the staff of the Bay Foundation, and staff of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission.~~

In December 2018, the Governing Board held a ~~board workshop in order for the Governing Board~~ to provide input on the current governance and any suggestions for changes and modifications to the overall governance structure, or to any of the specific elements of the governance structure, or any policies and practices.

The Bay Foundation, in cooperation with the ~~Bay Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission~~, developed this eSurvey as an opportunity for all members of the Management Conference, interested stakeholders, and members of the public, to provide input on the governance of the SMBNEP, ~~and any suggestions for changes and modifications to the overall governance structure, or to any of the specific elements of the governance structure, or any policies and practices.~~

Commented [YE1]: Suggest deleting this as you seem to have it better covered in the paragraph below.

We are particularly interested to know your thoughts on what’s working well, if and how current governance could be improved, and any specific suggested changes or modifications to any elements of the Management Conference, or changes or modifications to any governance practices or policies of the SMBNEP that can contribute to improved performance and achievement of Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) objectives for protecting, conserving, enhancing, and restoring Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds.

Q1. We would describe our agency's attendance at SMBNEP public meetings (e.g. Governing Board, Executive Committee, Watershed Advisory Council, Technical Advisory Committee) as:

Always Attend	Regularly	Sometimes	Have in Past	Never have

Q2. We would describe our agency's participation in the activities of the SMBNEP as:

Fully Active	Active	Sometimes	Inactive	Not Active

Commented [YE2]: How do you define participation?  
It's more than attendance?

Q3. Our agency's primary reasons for attending and participating in the SMBNEP are: *(Select all that apply).*

Availability of Technical, Policy, and Project Expertise	
Ability to Partner on Grant Funding and Projects	
Assistance in Delivery of Regional Projects/Initiatives	
Assistance with Individual project implementation	
Other:	

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Q 4. How well informed are you regarding the structure and functions of the current SMBNEP Management Conference governance?

Fully	A Lot	More than a Little	A little	Not at all

Q 5. Effectiveness of Management Conference

Please rate the effectiveness of current Management Conference governance structure in meeting SMBNEP/ CCMP priorities

Commented [YE3]: Do you need the /? Aren't SMBNEP and SMBNEP CCMP priorities the same?

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						
Managing Projects						
Making Policy						
Raising and Expending Funds						
Researching and Monitoring Bay Conditions						
Educating and Engaging Stakeholders						

Q 6. Effectiveness of Governing Board/Executive Committee

Please rate the effectiveness of current GB/EC governance structure in meeting SMBNEP/CCMP priorities.

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						

Managing Projects						
Making Policy						
Raising and Expending Funds						
Researching and Monitoring Bay Conditions						
Educating and Engaging Stakeholders						

Q 7. Effectiveness of the Watershed Advisory Committee (WAC)

Please rate the effectiveness of current WAC governance structure in meeting SMBNEP/CCMP priorities.

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						
Informing and Affecting Projects						
Informing and Affecting Policy						
Informing and Affecting Program and Project Funding						
Understanding Research on and Monitoring of Bay Conditions						
Educating and Engaging Stakeholders						

Q 8. Effectiveness of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Please rate the effectiveness of current TAC governance structure in meeting SMBNEP/CCMP priorities.

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						
Informing and Affecting Projects						
Informing and Affecting Policy						
Researching and Monitoring Bay Conditions						
Informing and Educating Stakeholders						

Q 9. Effectiveness of The Bay Foundation

Please rate the effectiveness of the Bay Foundation governance structure in meeting SMBNEP/CCMP priorities.

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						
Managing Projects						
Informing and Affecting Policy						
Raising and Expending Funds						
Supporting, Funding, and Managing Research and Monitoring of Bay Conditions						
Educating and Engaging Stakeholders						

Q 10. Effectiveness of Restoration Authority

Please rate the effectiveness of the Restoration Authority structure in meeting SMBNEP/CCMP priorities.

	Fully Effective	Very Effective	Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Effective	Don't Know-Need More Information
Overall						
Managing Projects						
Raising and Expending Funds						

Q 11. How effective is the current governance relationship of the USEPA NEP Program with The Bay Foundation and SMBRC?

Commented [YE4]: See comment below

Fully	A Lot	More than a Little	A little	Not at all

Q 12. How effective is the current governance relationship of the State Water Resources Control Board with the SMBRC?

Fully	A Lot	More than a Little	A little	Not at all

Commented [YE5]: These options don't match the question. Maybe start with scale of "Excellent"

Q 13. How effective is the current governance relationship between the SMBRC and The Bay Foundation?

Commented [YE6]: see comment above



Fully	A Lot	More than a Little	A little	Not at all

Q 14. What do you see as the unique strengths and attributes of the SMBNEP Management Conference governance structure?

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Q 15. Are there governance policies and practices that best contribute to achieving the SMBNEP's goals and objectives?

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Q 16. Are there elements of the current governance structure that could be modified for improved performance?

Commented [YE7]: is this a yes/no question with opportunity for narrative below?

	Keep as Is	Modify Structure	Modify Policies	Modify Practices
Governing Board- Executive Committee				
WAC				
TAC				
The Bay Foundation				

Restoration Authority				
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Please explain:

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Q 17. Do you feel there are major governance obstacles/challenges to achieving program success?

Please explain:

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Q 18. Are there new or modified governance policies and practices that could be implemented that could lead to better achievement of the SMBNEP's goals and objectives?

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Q 19. How well suited is the current governance structure to address Key Management Issues and Challenges looking forward?

Fully	A Lot	More than a Little	A little	Not at all

Comments:

Q 20. Could you suggest any other changes to the current governance structure or suggestions for future governance?

Q 21. Financing/Implementation/Community Private/Public Partnerships  
What new or expanded governance, financing, and implementation partnerships should the Management Conference be exploring and developing?

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Q 22. How active would you like to be in the SMBNEP going forward?

- Very \_\_\_\_\_
- Moderately \_\_\_\_\_
- Slightly \_\_\_\_\_
- Very Little \_\_\_\_\_
- None at all \_\_\_\_\_

Q 23. How could you become better engaged with the SMBNEP? (What factors would increase your interest in and engagement with the SMBNEP?)

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Q 24. Other Comments:

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Optional: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Commented [YE8]: People might miss this given that it's on the very last page